

NV

HIGHLIGHTS

2005 Legislature



Nevada Department of Corrections

The Nevada Department
of Corrections
July 2005

To our Employees:

With the 2005 Legislative Session now behind us, the changes that it brought will effect our Department for many years to come. With the funding to open Casa Grande, the Youthful Offender Facility and the planned new Restitution Center, we will truly be "Leading Nevada Corrections into the Future".

I can't thank you enough for all your hard work, knowledge, and time taken from your lives and families during the session. I know it was not easy researching and presenting many of the needs and issues of the Department to the Legislature, but I am so impressed with your hours spent on this and it is so very much appreciated.

With the continued encouragement and support of Governor Guinn and his staff, we made great progress on our goals for NDOC. In addition, special thanks must go to all the individuals, other Departments and the professional groups, such as SNEA, NCA, Teamsters, for their efforts on our behalf. Words of appreciation hardly seem enough, in light of what they helped us accomplish!

Throughout this session my focus was to increase our correctional professional's salaries to more closely match our counterparts in other agencies. We have moved closer to this goal with the granting of the 2-grade pay increase, and adding a tenth step for those that have topped out in salary. That and the two step cost-of-living increases all classified and unclassified employees received will improve our pay equities. Care and concern for our staff and their families will continue to be of great importance to the Department as we move forward with improving corrections in Nevada.

Our employees are ultimately responsible for the success of the Department and I am very proud to be a part of this wonderful group of people. I am so proud and thankful for all your countless hours of hard work and the success you achieved. Again my thanks for a great 73rd Legislative Session!

Jackie Crawford - Director
Nevada Department of Corrections



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The 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature lasted a total of 120 days, but in this short time some important legislation was passed that impacts NDOC and our employees.

"This legislation," said Governor Guinn, "will serve in the coming months and years as excellent building blocks for continued prosperity and opportunity for the people of Nevada."

The top issues for state workers this session included preserving benefits and receiving a cost of living increase.

Included here are some of the more important pieces of legislation for the Department.

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- NDOC was approved for 2,719.44 FTE positions by June 30, 2007, the end of the new biennium. This is an increase of 281.51 FTE over the FY 05 base year as adjusted. Of these positions, 210.51 in various budget accounts are for the opening of SNCC in August 2006 and 22 are for the opening of Casa Grande later this year.
- Additional positions include 18 continuing positions at HDSP that were funded by the Washington contract, 11 continuing positions at SDCC for the OASIS program that were grant funded, 3 continuing positions for the Going Home Prepared Program that were grant funded, 3 CO's for a segregation unit and 1 Maintenance Repair Specialist at SDCC, 1 CO for a structured living program at LCC, 8 CO's at SNWCC for additional posts, and 6 data processing staff in the central office for a new offender management system.
- The Department's total budget for the biennium (FY 06 and 07) is \$516,177,504. The average projected number of in-house inmates for FY 06 is 11,465 and for FY 07 is 11,896. The FY 07 average cost per day per inmate in total is \$56.16. This is comprised of \$42.47 for all facilities combined, \$8.29 medical, \$3.77 administration (includes inmate transportation), and \$1.64 programs.
- All employees will receive a 2% cost of living increase effective July 1, 2005 and an additional 4% July 1, 2006. Step 10 is added to the state compensation schedule effective July 1, 2005 and this amounts to approximately a 5% increase.
- A two grade increase is granted to certain classes of state employees effective July 1, 2005 and this amounts to approximately a 10% increase plus the 2% and 4% cost of living adjustments on this amount. For the Department of Corrections those receiving the increase include Correctional Officers through the Associate Wardens, case workers, criminal investigators, and nurses.
- Funding to open Casa Grande late 2005 with a capacity of 400 inmates.

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- Funding to open Southern Nevada Correctional Center (SNCC) August 2006 as a youthful offender facility. When open, SNCC is authorized for 167 facility staff plus on-site medical (22.5) and program (13) staff. SNCC will receive a special appropriation of \$838,200 upon approval of the Legislative Interim Finance Committee for electronic monitoring equipment to augment security for safety of staff and inmates.
- A land exchange with the Reno Sparks Indian Colony that will result in a new northern restitution center in Reno to accommodate 200 inmates. It is anticipated that the new restitution center will open January 2007 with approximately 100 inmates and existing staff.
- A one-time appropriation of \$1,012,482 in SB 104 for replacement vehicles. The amount was specifically for 48 new vans.
- Deferred maintenance projects funded in the administrative budget in the amount of \$3,506,528. The projects are specifically identified in the budget and are for 13 different facilities.
- A new offender management system to be operational by June 30, 2007. The amount appropriated for the system is over \$10 million and that amount is included in a Department of Administration budget account.
- Capital improvement projects totaling \$55,622,185. Projects include: \$40.3 million for construction of two housing units at HDSP; \$2.7 million for design of a 400 bed addition for SNWCC; \$2.0 million for design of an Indian Springs Work Center; and sewage upgrades of \$6.8 million at SSCC, ESP, PCC and Indian Springs.